

1959

1959	KGB creates disinformation department.
1/1/59	Batista flees Cuba; Castro arrives in Havana.
1/7/59	Castro closes all casinos. ¹¹ See 1/13/59.
1/13/59	Castro allows casinos will be permitted to open for non-Cubans. ¹² See 2/17/59.
2/17/59	Castro's cabinet votes to reopen casinos. ¹³ See 9/30/61.
3/59	Castro expropriates [US owned] Cuban Telephone Company.
3/19/59	By letter, Oswald enrolls in Albert Schweitzer College, Switzerland. ¹⁴
4/59	Nixon meets Castro in Washington.
5/59	Castro expropriate US companies and institutes agrarian reforms including expropriation of US company owned land.
5/24/59	John Foster Dulles dies.
6/59	Maj. Pedro Diaz Lanz, chief of the Cuban Air Force, defects to the US.
6/19/59	By letter, Oswald sends \$25 deposit to Albert Schweitzer College. ¹⁵

¹¹Earman 19-20.

¹²Earman 19-20.

¹³Earman 19-20.

¹⁴See FBI letter, 11/3/60.

¹⁵FBI letter, 11/3/60.

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8/17/59	Oswald applies for hardship discharge. (His term of service was supposed to end on 12/7/59).
9/11/59	Oswald leaves Marine Corps. ¹⁶
10/10/59	Oswald in Helsinki.
10/12/59	Oswald applies for Soviet visa. ¹⁷
10/16/59	Oswald arrives in Moscow.
10/26/59	ONI(?) memo prepared on Robert Edward Webster, an illegible copy of which appears in in Oswald's Naval Intelligence file at Algiers, La. See 4/27/61.
10/31/59	Oswald speaks to Richard E. Snyder at Embassy. Cable from Richard Snyder at Amembassy Moscow to State Department Washington, FBI HQ copy routed to FLJ (Division 5), Branigan, Belmont. [forwarded to CIA and FBI] reporting that Oswald has offered to tell Russians what he learned as radar operator. "He intimated that he might know something of special interest." "For what significance it may have, the foregoing was also the pattern in the Nicholas PETRULLI case (our Dispatch 111, September 11, 1959)."
11/59	According to WR, FBI opens file on Oswald [HQ: 105-82555; Dallas 100-10461]. At approximately the same time State, ONI, and CIA open files. ¹⁸
11/2/59	Ourtel from Charge d'affaires Freers Amembassy Moscow to State Department Washington. (3 pages describing Oswald and attempted defection.) [forwarded to CIA and FBI] reporting that Oswald has

¹⁶FBI Report, 7/10/62, p. 2.

¹⁷HSCA Rep. 211.

¹⁸WR 434.

offered to tell Russians what he learned as radar operator. "He intimated that he might know something of special interest." "For what significance it may have, the foregoing was also the pattern in the Nicholas PETRULLI case (our Dispatch 111, September 11, 1959)."

NIS memo to file (copy to FBI (attn Mr. Wells); HQ routing to FLJ) on Oswald's defection. "Files of ONI contain no record of Subject." "He speaks, reads and writes Russian but very poorly." Oswald's record sent to Records Facility, Glenwood, Ill. "No action contemplated by this office."

Freers, Amembassy Moscow writes "memorandum report" on interview with Oswald on 10/31/59. Copy finds its way to Naval Intelligence, 8th District, file on Oswald at Algiers, La., but copy there is illegible. See 4/27/61.

11/3/59

ALUSNA Moscow to CNO (copy to FBI) re: defections of Oswald and Robert Edward Webster. Oswald "has offered to furnish Soviets info. he possesses on US radar."

11/4/59

CNO to ALUSNA Moscow (copy FBI, CIA, DOS, INS, OSI/USAF, ACSI/ARMY): provides info. on Webster and Oswald. "Request significant developments in view of continuing interest of HQ, Marine Corps and U.S. intelligence agencies."

FBI HQ from W.A. Branigan to A.H. Belmont (copies to Belmont, Branigan, De Loach, Jones, Trotter) re: Oswald. USMC files contain "no indication of any Soviet contacts" involving Oswald. Because Oswald "apparently has no knowledge of any strategic information which would be of benefit to the Soviets, it does not appear that any action is warranted by the Bureau in this matter." However, "Espionage Section should be advised if subject again enters the U.S."

11/9/59

CIA creates HTLINGUAL index card for Oswald bearing the notation "CI/Project/RE" and "Watch List." According to the CIA, CI/Project was just another name for HT-Lingual and a CIA officer with initials RE noted that Oswald was under surveillance in the HTLINGUAL

project. See 8/7/61.¹⁹

Telegram from Tokyo to Secretary of State, re: Pic's request to get message to Oswald: "Please reconsider your intentions."

Telegram from Moscow to Secretary of State (copies to CIA, FBI). "Consular officer attempted personal delivery of message from Pic to Oswald today, but unable make contact at hotel. Message being sent registered mail." "Department has instructed Embassy may not withhold renunciation Care has been and will be taken to be sure he has no doubts should he appear to make formal renunciation."

- 11/10/59 "Flash" put on Oswald's FBI identification records. HWR note on FBI memo of 11/4/59.
- 11/13/59 Date first serial is filed in Oswald's FBI HQ file -- a newspaper clipping about two American defectors to the USSR (*Corpus Christi Times*, 10/23/59); HQ routing to Branigan. Neither of the defectors is named, and neither one is Oswald.
- 11/16/59 Priscilla Johnson (McMillan) interviews Oswald in his hotel (Metropole) in Moscow.

¹⁹HSCA Rep. 205-07.

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1960

- 1/13/60 Special Group decides that CIA should start covert contingency planning to accomplish the fall of the Castro government.²⁰
- 2/7/60 Frank Sinatra introduces John Kennedy to Judith Exner.²¹
- 2/19/60 OSI (Air Force?), Washington, D.C. makes inquiry to FBI HQ regarding Oswald.²²
- 2/29/60 FBI furnishes OSI, Washington, D.C. with copies of Oswald's FBI identification record.²³
- 3-8/60 **EARLY CIA PLOTS AGAINST CASTRO.** Esterline major player. Aerosol attack; (non-lethal) cigars, etc.²⁴
- 3/60 Plots against Castro begin.²⁵ J.C. King organizes task force to plan for Castro's overthrow.²⁶
- 3/8/60 "Speed" letter from Commandant of the Marine Corps, Washington, D.C. to Commander, Marine Air Reserve Training Command, Glenview, Ill.: "Arrangements being made with a Federal Investigation Agency to furnish you with report which relates to PFC

²⁰Ranelagh, *The Agency* 356.

²¹Ranelagh, *The Agency* 357.

²²Oswald FBI identification record, 2/29/60.

²³Oswald FBI identification record, 2/29/60.

²⁴Earman 9-14.

²⁵Corn, *Blond Ghost* 68.

²⁶Ranelagh, *The Agency* 356.

1959

July

1959

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Nixon Arrives Moscow	24 Nixon opens American Exhibition in Sokolniki Park Kitchen Debate Between Nixon and Khrushchev	25 American Exhibition opens to the public
26	27	28	29	30	31	

1959

August

1959

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31					Nixon Departs Moscow 1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Oswald Requests Discharge From Marine Corps	18	19	20	21	22 Leonard Bernstein Tour Begins Concerts in Moscow-----
23	24	25 Stravinsky Concert in Moscow	26	27 Concert Tour Moves to Leningrad	28	29

1959

September

1959

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4 American Exhibition at Sokolniki Park Closes	5
6 Concert Tour Returns to Moscow	7 Oswald Applies For Passport	8	9 Leonard Bernstein Concert Tour Ends	10	11 Oswald Discharged From Marine Corps	12
13	14	15 Khrushchev Arrives in the U.S.	16 Oswald Books Passage on SS Marion Lykes	17	18	19
20 SS Marion Lykes Sails for Europe	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Khrushchev Departs U.S.	29	30			

1959

October

1959

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Oswald Arrives Le Havre, France	9 Oswald Arrives Southampton, England	10 Oswald Arrives in Helsinki From London
11 Oswald Applies for Soviet Visa	12	13	14 Oswald Issued Soviet Visa	15 Oswald Enters USSR From Helsinki at Vainikkala Crossing Point	16 Oswald Arrives in Moscow and Checks Into The Hotel Berlin Oswald Applies For Soviet Citizenship Langelle Arrested at Popov Mtg.	17 Robert Edward Webster Renounces Citizenship
18 Langelle Departs Moscow	19	20 Oswald's Visa Expires	21 Oswald Slashes His Left Wrist and is Hospitalized	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Oswald Released From Hospital Oswald Moves to Metropole Hotel	29	30	31 Oswald Visits U.S. Embassy To Renounce Citizenship Oswald Interviewed By Aline Mosby

1959

November

1959

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 American Exhibition Must Vacate Sokolniki Park by COB Today.	2 Embassy Calls to Report Text of Robert Oswald Telegram- Oswald Refuses Call	3 Oswald Writes to Embassy Requesting Revokation of Citizenship	4	5	6 Snyder Responds to Oswald's Nov 3 Letter	7
8	9 McVickar Attempts to Deliver Pic Telegram to Oswald at Metropole Hotel	10	11	12	13	14 Oswald Interviewed by Aline Mosby
15 Oswald Interviewed by Priscilla Johnson	16 Soviet Official Visits Oswald at Metropole - Gives Permission For Oswald to Remain in USSR	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					